

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 AID-05
CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EPG-02 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-01
INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04
USIA-06 OES-07 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07
NRC-05 /122 W

-----210517Z 105692 /23

R 201654Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3037

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

ERDA WASHDC

ERDA GERMANTOWN MD

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, FR

SUBJECT: FRENCH REVIEW CURRENT COMMERCIAL NUCLEAR POWER
PROGRAM

1. THE MAY 17, 1977 COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING,
PRESIDED BY PRESIDENT GISCARD, REVIEWED THE FRENCH
NUCLEAR ENERGY GENERATION PROGRAM. IT WAS DECIDED TO
SET UP AN INTERMINISTERIAL COMMITTEE TO BE CHAIRED BY
THE PRIME MINISTER WHICH WILL MEET EVERY THREE MONTHS
AND WILL EVALUATE THE PROGRESS OF THE FRENCH NUCLEAR
ENERGY PROGRAM. AFTER THE MEETING PRESIDENT GISCARD
EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF PROGRESSIVELY SUBSTITUTING
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NUCLEAR ENERGY FOR OIL IN THE GENERATION OF
ELECTRICITY. THE OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT STRESSED THAT
THE PREVIOUS DIRECTIVES OF THE CENTRAL PLANNING
COMMITTEE OF FEBRUARY 1, 1975 AND OF THE COUNCIL OF
MINISTERS OF APRIL 15, 1976 REMAIN THE BASIS OF THE
PROGRAM. THIS PROGRAM FORESEES CONSTRUCTION START FOR
12,000 MWE NUCLEAR CAPACITY IN 1976-77 AND 5,000 MWE IN

1978. THE MAY 17 ANNOUNCEMENT DID NOT ENDORSE ANY SPECIFIC TARGET CAPACITIES. A NEW REPORT ON REQUIRED NUCLEAR ENERGY PRODUCTION IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN ABOUT A WEEK, AND GOVERNMENT DECISIONS ON PLANT CAPACITY TO BE BUILT ARE EXPECTED AT THE END OF JUNE.

2. COMMENT: IT APPEARS THERE ARE HIGH-LEVEL GOVERNMENT CONCERNS THAT THE CURRENT PROGRAM IS OVERLY AMBITIOUS. FESSENHEIM I IS OVER ONE YEAR BEHIND SCHEDULE, AND OTHER EARLY PLANTS ARE LIKELY TO BE SOMEWHAT LATE. THERE IS AT LEAST SOME LOCAL OPPOSITION TO BUILDING OF THE PLANTS AT SEVERAL SELECTED SITES. THE ECONOMICS OF THE PLANTS APPEAR LESS ATTRACTIVE THAN A FEW YEARS AGO, VERY EXTENSIVE FINANCIAL RESOURCES ARE REQUIRED, AND THE DEMAND FOR ELECTRICITY MAY BE LESS THAN PREVIOUSLY ANTICIPATED.
GAMMON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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